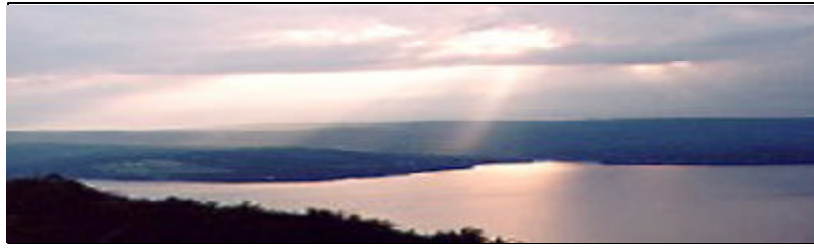


U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States



VANTAGE

Fall 2003

Yee-Haw! Wild Horses and Burros Arrive in Virginia

By Milli Alam, Public Affairs Specialist, and Jinx Fox, Geologist, BLM-ES

BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) hosted its first ever Wild Horse and Burro Adoption on Saturday, October 11, in Lorton, Virginia. The successful adoption was the first adoption held in the northern Virginia area in over 5 years.

The adoption event offered 52 animals of various colors, including yearlings, burros, and other horses under 5 years old from the public lands in the West. Bidding began at \$125 per animal, and 23 horses and 8 burros were adopted to qualified bidders who came from the States of Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.



Spectators study burros at the first Wild Horse and Burro Adoption held at BLM-ES Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area in Virginia.

Continued on page 3

BLM-Eastern States Welcomes New Associate State Director

By BLM-ES, External Affairs Staff



**Ann B. Aldrich, Associate State Director,
BLM-Eastern States**

In late August 2003, we welcomed a new Associate State Director, Ann Aldrich, to our BLM-ES family. Ann previously served in the BLM's Washington Office as the Group Manager for Planning, Assessment, and Community Support.

Ann brings 24 years of Bureau experience to BLM-ES. So far, her career has spanned three States and the Headquarters Office. She began working for the BLM as a Botanist in the Rock Springs, Wyoming District. She moved to the Lewistown, Montana District and served as the Resource Management Plan Team Leader and Chief of Planning prior to her move to Spokane, Washington, where she worked as the Area Manager for the Border Resource Area. Upon moving to the Headquarters Office, she held positions as Program Analyst with the Budget Group and BLM Liaison to the National Association of Counties (NACo).

Ann is married to Jim Osen, a photographer, and they have a high school daughter, Sarah. Outside of working at BLM, Ann enjoys gardening, wind-surfing, cooking, and supporting her daughter's rowing team.



State Director's Message



We are continuing to chart an important and exciting course at BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) and are in the process of developing the long-term vision for our seven major program areas—energy and minerals, wildland fire, wild horse and burro adoption and compliance, natural resources, lands and realty, cadastral survey, and General Land Office Records Automation. In this process, we are defining BLM-ES' niche in the national BLM organization. With almost two-thirds of the country's population and elected congressional officials, it has become clear that BLM-ES will certainly play an increasingly vital role in showcasing the Bureau's multiple-use management. Through our diverse on-the-ground resources management, we continually strive to add value to the quality of life for the people we serve.

In 2004, we are giving full consideration to the President's initiatives and plans to accomplish our major priorities. We plan to protect and preserve the Nation's natural and cultural heritage and improve the health of the land by:

- Promoting dependable, affordable, safe and environmentally sound leasing, exploration, and production from approximately 39,000,000 acres of mineral estate in our area of jurisdiction in response to the energy and mineral demands of the Nation;
- Increasing responsibility in the Wildland Fire Plan in the East. We will be more active in wildland fire management through: firefighting, rehabilitation and restoration efforts, hazardous fuels reduction, community assistance, and educational/outreach such as Firewise;
- Working with partners to identify markets to increase the adoption of excess wild horses and burros removed from over-populated Western rangelands, continuing and strengthening our role as the primary adoption arm of the Bureau. We will continue to work with our Western counterparts to achieve appropriate herd management levels on the Western rangelands, resulting in improved rangeland conditions;
- Conducting on-the-ground verification of public domain lands in the East. We will also continue to prepare land use plans to make retention or disposal decisions while coordinating with potential partners on disposal or management through partnerships such as for lighthouses and other tracts;
- Identifying ways to work with external partners to meet shared goals. We will forge strong partnerships and take a strong proactive approach by involving States, counties, communities, and groups to increase an eastern awareness of BLM's important mission; and

- Showcasing BLM's multiple-use management at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area and Douglas Point properties through collaborative relationships and active partnerships.

Our efforts in all of our programs will continue to improve financial performance to make sure we are delivering public services efficiently and in the most effective manner. BLM-ES relies heavily on its diverse and talented workforce, our most valuable resource. In 2004, we will continue to develop and encourage our employees to be creative and innovative.

With that said, I would like to extend a happy, healthy Holiday Season and Happy New Year to all employees, partners, and volunteers who help to make BLM-ES shine as a Federal Agency.

Michael D. Nedd
State Director, Eastern States

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Front cover: Wild Horses and Burros Arrive in Virginia
and BLM-ES Welcomes New Associate State Director

*Meadowood SRMA WH&B adoption...continued from page 1*

Wild mustang, "Casperina," is one of two wild mustangs adopted by the U.S. Army Caisson Platoon and used for official functions at Arlington National Cemetery. From left to right are Public Affairs Specialist Milli Alam, volunteer Michelle Smith, and Staff Assistant Char Hannigan at the Meadowood SRMA Wild Horse and Burro Adoption.

Two out-of-state adopters, Tina Jones from Maryland and Cheryl Glasker from Pennsylvania, brought their gentled mustangs to show the public. Other past adopters and DelMarVa's Chapter of the American Mustang and Burro Association also traveled from Delaware to support this first Meadowood SRMA adoption.

The adoption attracted many admirers and numerous local horse owners who came out of curiosity to look at the quality of wild horses and burros available for adoption.

Plans are currently underway to hold another adoption at the Virginia site by summer 2004.



Partners Work Together to Conserve a Regional Landmark in Florida

Story and photo by Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM-ES Jackson Field Office

On July 29, BLM's Deputy Deputy Director and BLM-ES Director Mike Nedd presented the coveted BLM Director's 4C's Award to the Jupiter Inlet Working Group during a ceremony held at the Jupiter Lighthouse for work at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida. The 4C's Award recognizes significant contributions in conserving our country's natural resources, and is the highest honor awarded by BLM. This was the first such award in the entire eastern United States. Nearly 100 people attended the ceremony.

Representatives of the working group include seven Federal and private organizations—the Town of Jupiter, the Village of Tequesta, Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, the U.S. Coast Guard, Jupiter High School Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy, the Loxahatchee River Historical Society, and the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office (JFO).

On October 30, the BLM-ES JFO initiated a Land Stewardship Memorandum of Understanding that was signed by the working group to cooperate on the



The Jupiter Inlet Working Group received the BLM Director's 4C's Award, presented by BLM Deputy Director Fran Cherry and BLM-ES Director Mike Nedd. Collaborative efforts of the working group included completing prescribed burns on the tract, removing thousands of invasive Australian pine and Brazilian pepper trees, and conducting annual sweeps to keep exotic invasive plants under control.

management of land facilities associated with the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area, Lighthouse Park, and U.S. Coast Guard housing.



Weed Removal Project at the Pt. Betsie Lighthouse Property in Michigan

Story and photo by Sylvia Jordan, Natural Resource Specialist, BLM-ES Milwaukee Field Office



In July 2003, BLM-ES MFO employees, armed with hefty spade shovels, severed hundreds more Baby's breath taproots at the Pt. Betsie Lighthouse.

On June 25, 2002, a group of 13 people teamed up for a Baby's breath weed removal project on the Pt. Betsie Lighthouse property near Frankfort, Michigan. The effort involved removing this aggressive plant, which escaped cultivation many years ago and now forms dense stands on dune habitat adjacent to Lake Michigan.

Baby's breath invades the dune habitat, making the dunes less suitable for native plants, such as the endangered Pitcher's thistle, which grows best on open, windblown dunes and low open beach ridges. A small population of Pitcher's thistle has been located on the lighthouse property. Removal of Baby's breath plants will directly benefit the thistle by removing plants that are stabilizing the open dunes.

Weed removal on the lighthouse property complements ongoing weed removal work on adjacent land managed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The TNC was instrumental in helping BLM initiate our project in 2002 by loaning us spade shovels, showing us the best method for severing the weed's taproot, and volunteering time to assist with removal of plants. Hundreds of Baby's breath plants were severed. However, many more remain for future removal.

After spending numerous days severing Baby's breath plants on the dunes of Lake Michigan, you may never view floral bouquets in the same light again!

Partnerships

BLM-ES/ELRC Meet in Alabama for the 2003 Fall Conference

Story and photo by Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, BLM-ES

From October 5-9, BLM-ES representatives joined current, new, and former members of the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) for an outstanding fall conference and reunion, filled with "Southern Hospitality" in Point Clear, Alabama. This conference marked the 20th anniversary of the ELRC, of which BLM-ES was a founding member in 1983.

Highlights of the conference included an ELRC celebration of 20 years of service; a Federal update on land management issues; the history of offshore natural gas in Alabama with current developments in production, procedures, initiatives and challenges of offshore gas production; strategies and management of historical sites; an offshore excursion through historic Mobile Bay; and a visit to the Dauphin Island Estuarium.



ELRC members gather for the start of the fall 2003 conference. (From left to right, at front table) BLM-ES External Affairs Chief Terry Lewis; Operations Director Ed Leary, Vermont Department of Forestry, Parks & Recreation; and special guest and former BLM-ES Director Curt Jones, and one of the founders of the ELRC participated in the conference on a special panel commemorating 20 years of service by the ELRC.



BLM-Eastern States National Public Lands Day Events

7th National Public Lands Day Held at Jupiter Inlet in Florida

By Faye Winters, Wildlife Biologist, BLM-ES Jackson Field Office

What can 100 enthusiastic Jupiter High School students accomplish in 2½ hours on National Public Lands Day (NPLD)? They can fill a 40-yard dumpster with trash and debris, clean up years of bottles and cans along the Intracoastal Waterway, plant 350 mangroves in the intertidal shoreline of the Loxahatchee River, and pot over 9,500 mangroves for future wetland restoration projects.

Florida's Congressman E. Clay Shaw, who stopped by to help plant mangroves and speak to the group, was obviously impressed with the work accomplished by this hard working group as was the Mayor of the Town of Jupiter, Karen Golonka, and local County Commissioner, Jeff Koons, who also rolled up their sleeves to work along side the students.

This year's event focused on projects on U.S. Coast Guard-administered public domain lands as our way of thanking them for their generous support for previous NPLD events.

Wisconsin Citizens Receive A Gubernatorial Proclamation

Story and photo by Martha Malik, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM-ES Milwaukee Field Office



America's Outdoors' staff placed a USA flag at the site where a liberty garden has been planted to commemorate the New York City September 11, 2001, tragedy. The flag also reaffirms the principles of liberty and freedom, taking pride in America, and serves as a living tribute to our Nation's enduring strength.



Photo by Shayne Banks

Congressman E. Clay Shaw enjoys NPLD with students and volunteers doing restoration work on the banks of the Loxahatchee River, one of his favorite places in Florida. After work was completed for the day, the Loxachatchee River Historical Society, another working group partner, provided tours of the 105-step Historic Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse for the group to enjoy the expansive view and cool breezes.

Twenty-nine volunteers, including two boy scout troupes, BLM and U.S. Forest Service volunteers, spent NPLD cleaning up a 6-mile section of the Big Piney River in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri.

Volunteers at the Meadowood SRMA and Northern Virginia Pohick Bay Regional Park in Virginia, cleared trails and cut down trees, following the wake of Hurricane Isabel in late September.

BLM-ES Milwaukee Field Office (MFO) celebrated its 10th annual NPLD event at Milwaukee's Urban Tree House (UTH) site at Lynden Hill, a beautiful 2.8-acre open, green space, located in an urban community neighborhood. Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle commended the citizens of Wisconsin for efforts of NPLD events held in the State with an NPLD Gubernatorial Proclamation.

Nearly 200 people worked at the site, including Federal and State agencies, non-profit organizations, youth-serving organizations, local partners, and community residents, who came together to enhance, restore, and beautify the UTH site.



The "Centreville Clay" Story

Story and photo by Lars Johnson, Geologist, BLM-ES, Jackson Field Office

BLM-ES Jackson Field Office has enforcement and inspection responsibilities on a lease for "special-use" clay or as locals call it, "Centreville Clay," on the Talladega National Forest Oakmulgee Ranger District in Bibb County, west-central Alabama. The 40-acre lease is located 7 miles south of Centreville, Alabama, and has an active 20-acre clay pit that yields about 55,000 tons of clay each year.

The clay is mined, stockpiled on site, and loaded onto trucks for transport to Boral Bricks, Bessemer, Alabama, one of America's largest brick manufacturers. The Bessemer plant, an Australian-owned company, makes common brick for the national market using four ingredients—blue shale, yellow shale, "Centreville Clay," and fire clay.

The process begins with raw materials that pass through a primary crusher then to a grinding room where materials are stored in segregated piles. A front-end loader deposits the correct proportions of raw materials in a pug mill, water is added, and the mill cuts "slugs," which are long, wet cakes of colored brick. Some of the slugs are textured with artificial distress marks to simulate old handcrafted brick. The soft, wet



Clay is mined and stockpiled on site, then loaded onto 27-ton capacity trucks for transport to Bessemer, Alabama, for use in the manufacture of brick.

slugs are wire cut, separated and stacked, placed in a holding room, dried for 24 hours, then slowly pass through one of two, 12-foot wide, 2,000-degree F. kilns, which takes 33 hours. After cooling, the bricks are baled into cubes containing 520 bricks each.

There is a saying in minerals education, "Your house comes out of a mine." Many of the materials required for construction of our dwellings come from natural resources mined from the earth, such as "Centreville Clay."

Jackson Hotshots Stay Busy During the Off Season

Story and photo by Shayne Banks, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM-ES Jackson Field Office



From October 1-12, BLM-ES staffed a FIREWISE booth at the Mississippi State Fair. The Jackson Hotshots offered fire safety techniques to protect homes from disastrous wildfires.

Fall was a busy time for the Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew (IHC). Following their last summer fire assignment, the crew was dispatched to Williamsburg, Virginia, to assist local agencies and homeowners with clean-up efforts in the wake of Hurricane Isabel, which hit Virginia in September.

In early 2004, the Southeast Regional Fire Training Facility, home of the Jackson IHC, will be completed. The facility will be used as an interagency center to train fire crews in fire suppression and prescriptive fire use. Federal and State fire crews from all over the Southeast are expected to benefit from this facility.



BLM Draws Huge Crowds to the Falls of the Ohio Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Signature Event

By Bill Davenport, Public Affairs Specialist, and Terry Lewis, External Affairs Chief, BLM-ES

From October 14-26, BLM hosted a pavilion featuring General Office Records, Cadastral Surveying, and Responsible Mineral and Energy Development at the Falls of the Ohio Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Signature event held in Louisville, Kentucky, and Clarksville, Indiana. Continuous educational sessions were provided to nearly 10,000 attendees. An amazing total of 83 individual sessions were held, touching over 6,100 adults and school children from a wide geographic region, including visitors from the West and international travelers.

For the event's Discovery Trail, the BLM provided an encampment with four tent stations. Mr. Rob Nurre, from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, fascinated visitors with a re-enactment of a 19th Century surveyor and explained the tools and techniques of earlier times. The energy and minerals station was staffed by the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office Geologists Lars Johnson and Ken Adams, who explained minerals and energy sources that Lewis and Clark were sent to find, which included "hands on" basic geology concepts used to build the knowledge of how important minerals are to our everyday lives. The cadastral survey station was staffed by BLM-ES Land Surveyor Jim Degenhardt, who taught attendees how to read a compass and explained how land is surveyed today. The General Land Office (GLO) station was staffed by BLM-ES Deputy State Director for Cadastral Survey and GLO Records Automation Steve Douglas and Chief Land Surveyor Rob Nicolli, for the Upper Mississippi Rivers Project Office. They showed BLM's efforts to automate and preserve land records by helping visitors look for historic land patents using the online computer hooked up for this unique event.

BLM's Deputy Director Fran Cherry, and BLM-ES Director Mike Nedd, provided remarks at the closing ceremonies. Deputy Director Cherry highlighted some of the adventures of Lewis & Clark, one of the most remarkable and productive scientific and military exploring expeditions in American history. He also stated that BLM now manages many of the spectacular landscapes discovered by Lewis & Clark to this day. BLM-ES External Affairs Chief Terry Lewis served as host for the opening and closing sessions personally welcoming the thousands of people to the BLM venue, one of the most popular sites at the event. BLM-ES Public Affairs Specialist Bill Davenport, Richard Fichtler from the Montana



Photo by Bill Davenport

Rob Nurre, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, demonstrates a staff compass like the one Lewis and Clark used, to a group of school children during the Falls of the Ohio Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature event in Louisville, Kentucky, and Clarksville, Indiana. Approximately 6,000 5th grade through high school students came to learn about Lewis and Clark's Journey across America and the Corp of Discovery.

State Office, Pete Sozzi from the Idaho State Office (both Lewis and Clark Bicentennial State Coordinators), and Washington Office National Lewis and Clark Coordinator Michelle Dawson-Powell and Botany Program Lead Carol Spurrier, were in period costume and guided visitors through the pavilion, answering hundreds of questions about BLM and our many popular programs, from wild horse adoptions to recreation opportunities.

Lewis and Clark Adventure



Photo by Shayne Banks

Dr. Bryant Boswell, a local Mississippi dentist and member of the official Corps of Discovery Re-enactment Team and Discovery Expedition of St. Charles, Missouri, gave an inspiring Lewis and Clark Expedition presentation to employees at the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office. Dr. Boswell is part of a dedicated band of historians, naturalists, and re-enactors who are recreating the expedition in honor of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.



Lighthouse Transfers Around the Great Lakes

Story and photo by Paul J Salvatore, Realty Specialist, BLM-ES, Milwaukee Field Office

On September 22, the Grand Traverse Lighthouse was transferred to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Leelanau State Park, Michigan.

Guest speaker BLM Deputy Director Fran Cherry spoke on behalf of the BLM, praising the DNR and the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum for their efforts in caring for and restoring this historic maritime resource. Deputy Director Cherry emphasized several areas in his remarks including: (1) collaboration and cooperation between Federal and State governments and non-profit organizations to preserve historic resources, (2) volunteerism at the local level within the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum which deserved the credit for the beautiful lighthouse, (3) BLM's support of State and local governments in meeting increasing recreational demands, and (4) using the Secretary's 4C's approach to continue the transfer of these properties in Michigan and other States in addition to the National Historic Land Preservation Act initiative. Representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, BLM, DNR, Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum, and about 55 people attended the event in spite of the cool, damp weather.

BLM-ES Director Mike Nedd signed the patent transferring the lighthouse and associated 16.37 acres to the Michigan DNR through the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act. DNR Director, K.L. Cool accepted the patent on behalf of the State and then signed a long-term lease agreement with the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum for restoration, operation, and maintenance of the lighthouse and associated buildings.

The event concluded with the unveiling of a sign acknowledging those agencies involved with the lighthouse over the years and the new caretaker, the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum.



Pictured at the Grand Traverse Lighthouse ceremony were (from right to left) are Captain Scott Gordon, U.S. Coast Guard, Group Sault Ste. Marie; Deputy Director Fran Cherry, BLM; President Sterling Nickerson, Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum; Staff Member Allen Ammons; and Director K. L. Cool, Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

On October 16, BLM-ES transferred another lighthouse. With a brisk west-northwest wind coming off the bay at Peninsula State Park, overlooking Green Bay, Wisconsin, the Eagle Bluff Lighthouse was transferred to the Wisconsin DNR. Approximately 160 people were present to commemorate the event. BLM-ES Associate State Director Ann Aldrich signed the patent transferring the lighthouse and 1.21 acres to the Wisconsin DNR through the R&PP Act.

"Eagle Bluff is the first lighthouse to be transferred to the State of Wisconsin, and I want to recognize the hard work by the Milwaukee Field Office and its partners for making this happen," said Aldrich. These transfer ceremonies celebrate the culmination of the efforts and partnerships among Federal and State agencies, legislative entities, and local groups, to keep these sites as a part of the Great Lakes cultural heritage for future generations.

Wisconsin DNR Secretary P. Scott Hassett accepted the patent on behalf of the Wisconsin DNR, then he signed a long-term agreement with the Door County Historical Society for continued operation and maintenance of this historic site.

Others in attendance included Lieutenant Commander David Rokes, U.S. Coast Guard; Wayne Lemburg, Master of Ceremonies; and George Everson, President, Door County Historical Society.



Thousands Look for the Light!

By Mary A. Weaver, Realty Specialist, and Judy Pace, Archaeologist, BLM-ES Jackson Field Office

As darkness fell over Anclote Keys, the largest of a chain of small islands in the Gulf of Mexico, located about 3 miles offshore from the mouth of the Anclote River, thousands of lighthouse lovers arrived early on the shore at Sunset Park in Tarpon Springs, Florida, eagerly awaiting the "first light" from the restored Anclote Key Lighthouse.

The lighthouse fell into disrepair after being deactivated in 1984. On March 30, 1996, BLM-ES issued a patent to the State of Florida for the Anclote Key Lighthouse through the Recreation & Public Purposes (R&PP) Act. Today, the lighthouse belongs to the State of Florida and is part of the Anclote Key State Preserve. Funds to restore the lighthouse came from State and Federal agencies as well as donations from the public.

On September 13, lighthouse supporters listened to the Bertie Higgins Band, a local Tampa Bay celebrity, and bought Anclote Key Lighthouse paintings by local artist Roger Bansemer. For the past 7 years, the Higgins and Bansemer families have been major fundraisers and long-time supporters of the Anclote Key Lighthouse Restoration Project. Special guests included Congressman Michael Bilirakis, Florida legislators, and local corporate sponsors.



Photo by Judy Pace

Anclote Key Lighthouse in Florida.

Present at the lighting were BLM-ES Jackson Field Office Realty Specialist Mary Weaver, who led the way for R&PP Act patenting of the lighthouse, and Archaeologist Judy Pace, who worked with local lighthouse support groups to lay the groundwork for the restoration effort.

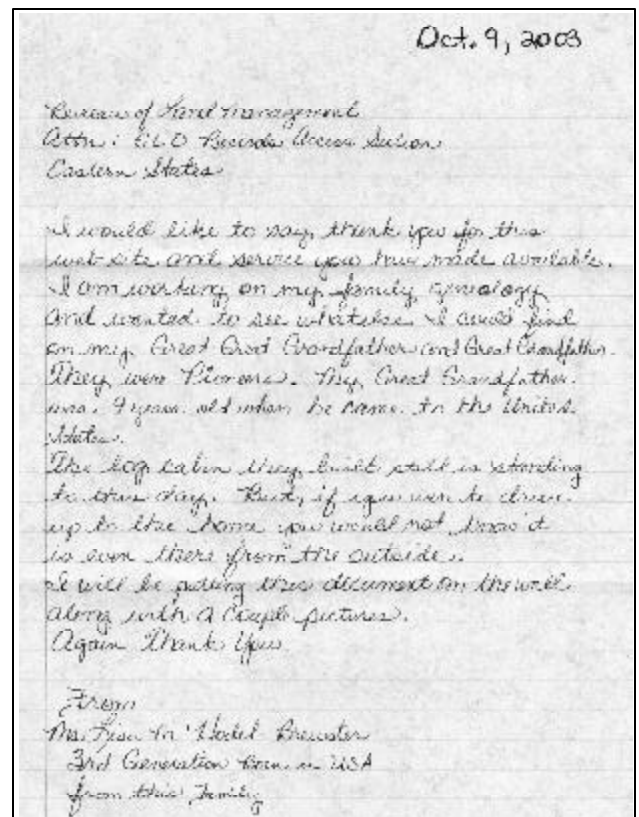
Kiger Mustang, A Hit at Breyerfest



Photo by Shayne Banks

BLM-ES sponsored a local Kiger mustang, Goodfield's Kiger Sombra, owned by Melissa Scott, from Decatur, Tennessee, at the Breyerfest 2003 event, at the Kentucky Horse Park in Kentucky. Sombra wooed the crowds by performing to the popular song "Wild Thing." BLM received great publicity and answered many questions about the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse Adoption program. Breyerfest is the largest horse model gathering in the world. BLM-ES has been asked to return in 2004.

General Land Office Kudo





ES Happenings

Congratulations to Patrice Junius, Outreach Specialist in the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office, who received Honorable Mention, as part of the "Excellence in Interpretation and Environmental Education Awards" at the National Association of Interpreters Conference in Sparks, Nevada. Patrice was recognized for contributions to environmental education through programs and events in the Jackson, Mississippi area.

On November 14, the BLM-ES Milwaukee Field Office (MFO) celebrated the co-location of their new office with the U.S. Forest Service, Office of General Counsel, America's Outdoors and the Federated Family Credit Union with an Open House. Constituents, partners, BLM retirees, and members of the community were invited to attend the awards ceremony and tour the building.

For "Bring Your Child to Work" day, BLM-ES MFO Archaeologist, Troy Ferone, brought his daughter, Madeline, and Legal Instruments Examiner, Kurt Wadzinski, brought his step-son, Michael, to work for the day. The youths learned about their dad's daily work day and BLM's many exciting programs.

BLM-ES General Land Office (GLO) Quality Assurance Specialist Janis Smith and Public Room Legal Assistant Jennifer Spencer represented BLM-ES at the Federation of Genealogical Societies 2003 Conference in Orlando, Florida, September 3-6. Janis and Jennifer explained the GLO records and demonstrated the GLO Web site at www.glorerecords.blm.gov to about 400 attendees. This site contains information about the early pioneers who received title to public domain lands from the Federal Government during the early settlement of our country.

From July 29 through August 4, BLM-Eastern States assisted 17 Federal agencies with exhibits at AirVenture 2003, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The event is one of the largest flight exhibitions in the world. The BLM made presentations sponsored by a consortium of the four wildland firefighting agencies from the Department of the Interior, which included BLM, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. BLM-ES provided educational information to thousands of attendees and BLM-ES and National Inter-agency Fire Center BLM Director Larry Hamilton spoke on several radio interviews about the importance of aviation in fighting wildland fires.

A Wild Horse and Burro Internet adoption was held October 29 through November 12. Bidding for the adoption began on November 5, and continued through November 19. Animals offered for adoption included: 30 Kigers from Oregon, 7 Sulphurs from Utah, 7 Pryors from Montana, 32 gentled horses from the Riverton, Wyoming Honor Farm, and 12 gentled horses from Mantel Ranch in Wyoming. 267 applications were received, and 180 were approved. Eastern bidders picked up their animals at the new Ewing, Illinois, adoption facility December 13-14. The highest bid was \$3,895 for a grulla Kiger mare, and total bids were \$41,445. The average winning bid was \$545 per animal.

On October 2, BLM-ES and U.S. Customs employees answered an urgent plea from the Greater Chesapeake & Potomac Regional Red Cross Blood Drive for blood donations. A total of 40 units of blood were donated to help save lives.

A Competitive Oil & Gas Sale was held at the State Office in Springfield, Virginia, on September 25, 2003. Oil and gas development rights on 98 parcels of Federal land in the States of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Ohio, were offered for sale. A total of 91 parcels were sold, generating revenue of over \$464,222. Bonus bids, filing fees, and rentals amounting to over \$315,422 will go to the U.S. Treasury; over \$141,974 will be given to the affected States. Carlton Oil Corporation, from Monroe County, Ohio, paid \$4,356 for a 121-acre parcel; their bid of \$36 per acre was the highest per-acre bid of the auction.

Comings & Goings

New employees.—*Ann Aldrich*, Associate State Director, State Office; *Joseph Blaeuer*, Human Resource Assistant, State Office; *Terry Carter-Pope*, Lead Human Resources Specialist, State Office; *Emily Reid*, IT Specialist (Contractor), State Office; *Vanessa Smith*, Human Resources Specialist, State Office; *Neville Thornill*, Legal Assistant, State Office; *Rasheida Vanderhall*, Receptionist (Contractor), State Office. **Temporary Hires.**—*Eric Kurkowski*, Human Resources Specialist, HRM, from BLM in Idaho (detail). **Transfers.**—*Adam Salameh*, Petroleum Engineer, MFO and *Vince Vogt*, Mining Engineer/Assistant Field Manager for Solid Minerals Team Office, MFO, both to BLM in New Mexico; *Ruth Welch*, Assistant Field Manager, MFO, to Deputy State Director, State Office. **Retirees.**—*Jesse Bryant*, Forestry Technician, JFO.



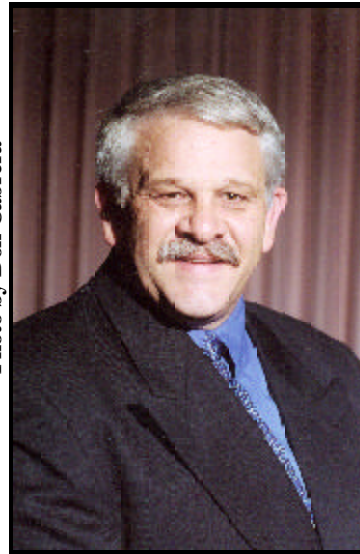
Employee Feature—Gary Cooper, Field Station Manager

By Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, BLM-ES

With 27 years of western BLM experience, Gary opted to explore the challenges of the East. He arrived at BLM-ES in August, ready to take on a new position with BLM-Eastern States as Field Station Manager for the Lower Potomac River Field Station, which encompasses the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area in Virginia, and Douglas Point in Maryland.

Gary graduated with a bachelor of science degree in Range Science from Oregon State University. Gary began working for the BLM in Prineville District in Oregon as a Range Conservationist, followed by a stint in Vale in the same capacity. While in Vale, he also worked as an Environmental Coordinator and as the Resource Management Plan (RMP) Team Lead for the Southeastern Oregon RMP/Environmental Impact Statement that encompassed 1.6 million acres involving two Districts and three Resource Area Offices. Gary then moved on to the Roseburg District in Oregon, where he worked as a Hazardous Materials Coordinator before moving to BLM-ES.

Photo by Don Cabrera



Gary Cooper, Field Station Manager, Lower Potomac Field Station

Gary is married, and his son is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps, and his daughter is attending Oregon State University. He also has two grandchildren. Outside of working at BLM, Gary enjoys hunting, fishing, and golfing.

Awards

The BLM-ES Jackson Field Office, as a member of the Jupiter Inlet Working Group, made up of Federal and private organizations, received the BLM Director's 4C's award for work accomplished at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida.

The following BLM-ES employees received **Star Awards**, covering the period June 2003 through November 2003: **Jackson Field Office** — **Akissi Bell**, File Clerk, **Victoria Craft**, Supervisory Program Specialist, **Frances Edwards**, **James Hood**, **Marty Neugebauer**, and **Lauren Ritchie**, Program Specialists— Wild Horse and Burro staff; **Patrice Junius**, Outreach Specialist, and **Faye Winters**, Wildlife Biologist. **Milwaukee Field Office** — **Troy Ferone**, Archaeologist, **Bill Fulcer**, Assistant Field Manager, **Howard Levine**, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, **Paul Salvatore**, and **Marcia Sieckman**, Realty Specialists. **State Office** — **LaShawn Barber**, Management Analyst, **Terry Carter-Pope**, Lead Human Resources Specialist, **Theresa Coleman**, Administrative Officer, **Alanda Crawford**, Geographic Information Specialist, and **Bill Davenport**, Public Affairs Specialist.

The BLM-ES Director has established three "Striving for Excellence" awards for BLM-ES employees, which are: 1) Adding Quality of Life for the People We Serve, 2) Striving for Excellence in Public Land Management, and 3) BLM-ES Oscar award, a non-monetary award that recognizes those BLM-ES employees who help to create an environment where people feel good about coming to work and giving their best. The following BLM-ES employees received a "Striving for Excellence" award:

State Office — **Deborah Allen**, Program Specialist, **Tondi Ballard**, Public Information Specialist, **Connie Berry**, Network Administrator, **James Boys**, Lead Computer Specialist, **Sherdina Calloway**, **Annette Cathcart**, **Lamar McCown**, IT Specialists, **Theresa Coleman**, Deputy State Director for Business Resources (on detail to BLM's WO), **Bill Davenport** and **Joe Zilincar**, Public Affairs Specialists, **Gussie Doster**, Quality Assurance Specialist, **John Douglas**, CIO and IRM Branch Chief, **Ida Doup**, Branch Chief, Use Authorization, **Fatemah Ezzati**, **Iris O'Neal**, and

Continued on page 12



Comment Card Briefs

Wild Horse and Burro.—"Through the Internet Adoption of the Kigers and Sulphers, I just wanted to give Karen Malloy and Deborah Allen a great big "attagirl" for the wild horses and following through on the interviews to adopters. I felt like I had a friend who shared the same compassion and love for the horses. Looking forward to becoming a lucky owner of a mustang and maintaining a "Legend." They are doing a great job!!" *Anonymous*

General Land Office.—"We use your web site to look up homestead information for researchers who come in to our Museum of Northwest Colorado. It's a great web site, and we appreciate the information you provide. Thank you." *Janet Gerber, Assistant Director, Museum of Northwest Colorado*

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Willette Proctor, Computer Specialists, **Shirlee Gilmore** and **Gina Goodwin**, Land Law Examiners, **Josie Gyurik**, Legal Instrument Examiner, **Char Hannigan** and **Cindy Kahn (former)**, Staff Assistants, **Theresa Jefferson**, Environmental Education Specialist, **Diana Lamonica**, Accounting Technician, **Kate Marks** and **Ric Smart**, Conservators, **Frankie Morgan**, Applications Clerk, **Peggy Riek**, Writer-Editor, **Ed Ruda**, Management Analyst, **Don Sliger**, Lead Computer Specialist, **Pat Tyler**, Supervisory Quality Assurance Specialist, and **Greg Wilson**, Telecommunications Specialist.

Milwaukee Field Office — **Bill Fulcer** and **Kim Maliki**, Computer Specialists, **Marcia Sieckman** and **Paul Salvatore**, Realty Specialists, and **Paula Langley**, Lands Records Specialist.

Jackson Field Office — **Cozette Archie**, Program Specialist, **Charlie Boyd**, Petroleum Engineering Technician, and **Lars Johnson**, Geologist.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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As Guardians of the Past, and Stewards for the Future, BLM-Eastern States is committed to sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands and resources spanning the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations.

